

The BOCES Regional Information Centers (RICs) in New York State have identified the following mission statement and shared goals. These goals will be collaboratively achieved by all RICs.

“We are a collaborative of BOCES Regional Information Centers providing leadership and efficient, effective technology solutions for the purpose of supporting management, learning and student achievement.”

2017-2018 Regional Information Centers’ Shared Goals and Action Items

State Technology Leadership

- Work in conjunction with members of the State Education Department in order to enhance state, regional and local technology plans and related processes.
- Provide assistance to the Smart Schools Review Board and New York State school districts, as the state implements the Smart Schools Bond Act.

Status updates are posted to the WNYRIC Smart Schools website, latest update 9/12/17. Review Board met 11/27/17, all applications that were sent to the Review Board were approved.

- *As of May 2, 2018:*
23 ready for review board
468 approved
132 expenditure review
132 initial review
9 program area review
No review board date set
- Continue to partner with NYSED in order to provide districts with support related to computer-based testing initiatives (DLM and Questar).
- CBT listserv is notified with all updates as they become available from SED
- CBT roadshow at WNYRIC on 9/29/17
- NYSED and Questar will be offering seven regional computer-based training (CBT) training sessions throughout New York State in January and February. Session at WNYRIC to be held February 6, 2018
- *A training for CBT scoring will be held via webinar March 21st. Eight-two schools in thirty-six districts and three non-public schools will participate at some level in 3-8 CBT this year.*

- *WNYRIC teams were in constant communication with SED, Questar and school districts throughout the testing process assisting schools with information, questions and issues.*
- Provide data, as requested, to NYSED and other partners, in order to inform state and national broadband initiatives and programs.
 - *RICs provided broadband data to Education Superhighway so that the data published in the state by state report is accurate. Updated information will be available in the Fall at compareandconnectk12.org.*
- Explore new partnerships with NYSCATE, ISTE, CoSN and other technology leadership organizations.
- Continue to work collaboratively on bids, RFPs and contracts that address statewide needs and leverage economies of scale.
 - *Six RICs participated in the Erie 1 ISP bid, released December 2017.*

State Data Leadership

- Monitor, enhance and expand the RICs' Common Data Views Initiative.
 - *3-8 ELA reports are scheduled to be released May 21, 2018, Math to be released as soon as possible thereafter, no later than June 4th.*
- Work in conjunction with Questar Assessment, Inc., NYSED and the large city school district scanning centers to make necessary modifications to existing NYS assessment processes and support services (including, but not limited to, answer sheet development, data warehouse, scanning and scoring and instructional reports).
 - *WNYRIC redesign of the 3-8 answer sheets was provided to RICs across the state for their use.*
- Develop strategic plans to improve data analysis reports and dashboards.
 - RICs are investigating several data visualization tools including Cognos 11 for possible expanded services
 - RICs were asked to assist SED with providing support for the pilot of the School Climate Survey. WNYRIC has participated in several conference calls regarding possible tools, data loads and technical needs in preparation for the pilot schools. SED is planning a webinar with pilot schools shortly. 8 WNYRIC districts are participating in the pilot.
 - *A demonstration of a vendor solution for the School Climate Survey, LinkIT, was held on March 5. Additional demonstrations can be scheduled if needed. Districts can choose to use the USDOE platform or a vendor provided solution.*

- Develop strategic plans to increase the number of stakeholders with electronic access to RIC developed instructional reports.
 - Building level access to the data warehouse is now in place
- Work in conjunction with NYSED to provide educators with early access to 2017-2018 incoming student reports.
- Continue to assist NYSED in communicating important information related to NYS data, assessment, and accountability initiatives.
 - Provided NYSED with assistance in the development of the new NYSITELL assessment answer sheet for English Language Learners. New ELL students must be tested immediately upon entry to a district and WNYRIC is developing a process to quickly report score results to districts. The new assessment will be in use beginning in February 2018.
 - *NYSITELL answer sheet printing and scoring process is now in place. 44 tests have been processed as of February 23, 2018.*
- Monitor, expand and refine the data integration, federation, and security initiatives.
- Work in conjunction with the NYS Chief Privacy Officer to provide leadership related to Education Law 2-D.
 - Chief Privacy Officer formed an Advisory Board, includes representation from the RICs. Meetings are underway.
 - A sub-committee of technical experts was formed to provide guidance to the CPO on data privacy and security standards as noted in Section 5 of Ed Law 2D. The guidance will be used to help with the development of model policies.
 - *CPO is planning to meet with districts across the state in April to provide an update on the privacy initiative with regard to Ed Law 2D.*
 - *Student Data Privacy Public Forum was held on May 2, 2018 at the WNYRIC. Forums taking place across the state from May 2 – mid June. Written comments may be submitted electronically beginning May 2 and ending close of business on June 18 to PrivacyForumComment@nysed.gov.*